

East Oregonian

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When you see a fellow mortal
 Without fixed and fearless
 views—
 Hanging on the skirts of
 others—
 Walking in their cast-off
 shoes—
 owing low to wealth or favor,
 With abject, uncovered head,
 Ready to retract or waver,
 Willing to be drove or led—
 Walk, yourself, with firmer
 bearing,
 Throw your moral shoulders
 back,
 Show your spine has nerve and
 marrow—
 Just the things which his most
 lack.

—Charles Mackay.

MAKING PROHIBITION VOTES.

The plight of the Morning Tribune on the prohibition question is pitiable in the extreme. It has taken the money of the liquor association, it is alleged, is dictated to by the committee in charge of the liquor league's funds, has offended a large per cent of its former friends, alienated some of its pioneer supporters and now awakens to the fact that it is alone in the fight, and don't know how to get back to a plane of journalistic decency, without swallowing everything it has ever said on the subject.

Why, nobody is worrying about the liquor traffic except the Tribune. One would think from the manner in which its soul is wrought up that it owns half the joints in Pendleton.

The local option law is in force—one of the most magnificent democratic laws ever passed in Oregon—and the people are perfectly capable of settling the liquor question by the aid of that law.

There was a medium, practical ground, on which the prohibitionists were going to stand, but if the saloon men insist on placing people on record for or against morality, for or against good government, for or against saloon domination, for or against the best standard of decency in Pendleton, it will not be a difficult matter to accomplish.

If they will inject a few more volts of campaign funds through the exchequer of the Tribune its contortions and infantile spasms will so thoroughly disgust the business men and home owners of this city that Pendleton, and possibly Umatilla county will go for prohibition. If the saloon men had kept their money in their pockets, or hired the Tribune to keep still, they would have won votes, but as it is, they are "breeding scabs on their own noses," as the school boys say.

Every word on the prohibition question so far published in the Tribune has made a prohibition vote, because its motives are not sincere and its grand stand play in favor of "business" is inspired by the jingle of campaign funds.

The East Oregonian has the utmost confidence in the judgment of the people on this question.

Aside from the Russo-Japanese war, the struggle between France and the Catholic church is the greatest issue in international politics. Since the foundation of the French government the vatican has dominated in public and private affairs. Next to Italy, France has been the stronghold of the church. Education, statecraft, public policy, public sentiment, national characteristics—the church has made and unmade them in France as if they were toys. Since the establishment of the republic the sentiment in favor of religious liberty has been stealing throughout the land like an electric current, silently charging the wires of a massive machine, and only awaiting the master touch to start the wheels in motion. The first triumph of the democracy was the release of the public school system from the domination and direction of the church. Now the government of France can dictate to the church what part of the public funds

the religious schools shall receive. The next step won by the liberals was to shake off the ancient religious orders of monks and monasticism clinging to the breast of the state. These antiquated brotherhoods had fattened on public donations for centuries. This graft is now abolished. And now the master stroke of the great campaign for freedom is about to be struck in the chamber of deputies, in the final and complete separation of church and state, in every relation, and the abolition of all the enormous gratuities wrung from the French people for centuries by the vatican. "C'est le une revolution."

At no time nor under no circumstances has the East Oregonian declared that the ballot should be made contingent on the payment of city poll tax. The city poll should be collected because the taxpayers of Pendleton are exempted from the payment of county road tax in order that their city poll tax may be applied to the improvement of streets. This tax should be collected from every man, alke and every ballot should be free and untrammelled by the restriction of the poll tax law. It is not a laudable record for Pendleton, a town of over 1200 votes, to cast but 399 votes in a city election because of the disfranchisement of the poll tax law, but every bad law must be obeyed until it is modified. Anything else is anarchy. The East Oregonian has never said nor believed that any man should be disfranchised by a poll tax law, but it has said, and takes pleasure in repeating it now, that the city poll tax should be collected because those who are eligible to pay it are exempted from all other road tax and they should bear their part of the burden. The advisor of the Morning Tribune is as unreliable as that paper.

There was never such a demand for knowledge, art, travel and satisfying enlightenment as at present. It is a mercenary age, and yet the aesthetic, the ideal, the beautiful, are sought more than ever before in the world. Pictures, paintings, poetry and sculpture never before commanded such prices as they do today. The conveniences and inventions of civilization have placed the enjoyment of the world's treasures of art within the reach of the poor and the hunger for learning is the greatest passion of the age. The photograph, moving picture machine and the cheap methods of reproducing the

great paintings, the printing press, the telegraph and cable have combined to bring the best there is in the world to the very door of the poor. A thrilling instance of this hunger for knowledge at first hand is presented directly to Pendleton people. Preston W. Search, who lectured on art and music before the late institute here, is so greatly in demand by schools and colleges that for two years in advance his time is engaged for lectures in different parts of the country. Scarcely a day in that time is left for rest or study.

It is said that no national campaign funds from either of the great political parties will be sent into Oregon this year. The republican majority is so large that they are certain to carry the state, and therefore that party needs no campaign fund here. Because of the big republican majority the democrats despair of carrying the state, so they refuse to waste any funds in Oregon. The greatest activity in the campaign is seen in New York, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Indiana, where there is a doubt as to the outcome. The sure states are experiencing a dull season from the standpoint of the vote hunter and professional booster. It is said that the manufacturers of campaign buttons, badges and paraphernalia have not sold 10 per cent of the usual amount of such trash, and one concern of this kind has failed for \$1,000,000.

Russian bonds declined two points at Paris Wednesday, because of the North Sea incident.

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A. P. ARMSTRONG, LL.B., PRINCIPAL

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